

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ADDIS 01179 310825Z

54

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 SCCT-01 IO-10 /074 W

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R 310531Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2884

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USCINCEUR

CINCUSNAVEUR

URQKBA/COMIDEASTFOR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ADDIS ABABA 1179

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS PINT ET

SUBJECT: ETHIOPIAN HERALD REVERTS TO HARD LINE ON

ERITREAN INSURGENTS

REFS: (A) USDAO 0060JAN75; (B) ADDIS A0544

1. REF A GIVES DETAILS ON REPORT OF DESTRUCTION OF FUEL TRUCKS
NEAR ASSAB ON JANUARY 27. ARTICLE IN ETHIOPIAN HERALD, JANUARY 29,
WHICH REPORTS THIS INCIDENT, TWICE REFERS TO THE PERPETRATORS
AS "BANDITS."

2. SECOND EDITORIAL IN ETHIOPIAN HERALD ON JANUARY 30 TITLED
"LAWLESSNESS" BEGINS "THE MISGUIDED BANDITS HAVE DONE IT AGAIN.
THE UNREPENTANT GANGS OF TERRORISTS WHO STALK CERTAIN REGIONS IN
THE NORTHERNMOST PART OF THE COUNTRY..."EDITORIAL FURTHER
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PAGE 02 ADDIS 01179 310825Z

REFERS TO PERPETRATORS AS "BRIGANDS", "COURIERS OF LAWLESSNESS",

AND WARNS THAT SHOULD THE GOVERNMENT RESOLVE TO "RUB THEM OUT", FEW COULD IN FAIRNESS ACCUSE THE GOVERNMENT OF OVER-REACTION. THE PMAC, THE ARTICLE STATES, HAS LEFT NO AVENUE UNEXPLORED IN ITS SEARCH FOR A JUST AND HONORABLE SOLUTION TO ERITREANS PROBLEMS, BUT ITS PATIENCE IS NOT INEXHAUSTIBLE.

3. COMMENT: REF B REPORTED THAT JANUARY 11 HERALD TERMED ELF/PLF AS "INSURGENTS" AND "REGELS" RATHER THAN "BANDITS" AND "OUTLAWS" AS FORMERLY. JANUARY 16 HERALD WARNED ERITREANS THAT THE PMAC'S PATIENCE IS NOT LIMITLESS AND MUST NOT BE TAKEN AS A SIGN OF WEAKNESS. JANUARY 19 HERALD TERMED ELF/PLF "SUBVERSIVES" AND "AGITATORS." FROM CENTRAL GOVERNMENT'S POINT OF VIEW, TREND TOWARDS FORMER TERMINOLOGY MAY MAKE SENSE IN LIGHT OF ACTS COMMITTED, BUT ELF/PLF MAY CONSIDER IT AS ILLUSTRATIVE OF HOLLOWNESS PMAC'S EARLIER POSTURE AND READ IT AS INDICATIVE OF THE RESURGENCE OF HARDLINERS IN ADDIS.

WYMAN

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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